

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 208751
ORIGIN ARA-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, PGOV, BL

SUBJECT: PRESS BRIEFING: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO BOLIVIA

1. DURING THE NOON PRESS BRIEFING ON AUGUST 16 THERE WERE
TWO SEPARATE QUESTION AND ANSWER EXCHANGES ON THE MATTER
OF U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO BOLIVIA.

2. THE FOLLOWING WAS FIRST INITIATED BY MR. WALTE OF UPI:
QUOTE:

Q: WHAT'S THE STATUS OF THE REVIEW OF MILITARY AID TO
BOLIVIA?

A: THE SITUATION ON MILITARY AID TO BOLIVIA IS THAT THE
UNITED STATES IS CONTINUING ITS MILITARY RELATIONSHIP WITH
THAT COUNTRY. PIPELINE MATERIALS ARE CONTINUING TO BE
DELIVERED AND MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAMS ARE PROCEEDING.
WE WERE STUDYING THE MATTER OF MILITARY AID TO BOLIVIA,
AND, IN FACT, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE DECIDED TO CONTINUE OUR
MILITARY RELATIONSHIP, OUR REVIEW OF FUTURE LEVELS AND
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SUCH ISSUES IS STILL IN PROCESS.

Q: HODDING, HAVE THERE BEEN ANY CONTRACTS OR ANY DECI-
SIONS WHICH WOULD LEAD TO DISBURSEMENTS OF THE \$14 MILLION
IN IMF CREDITS?

A: THAT MATTER IS STILL UNDER REVIEW. THE ANSWER IS NO.

UNQUOTE.

3. THE FOLLOWING WAS LATER INITIATED BY MR. CULLEN OF AP.
QUOTE:

Q: ON THE BOLIVIAN THING AGAIN, WHAT IS IN THE PIPELINE
IN THE WAY OF MILITARY AID FOR BOLIVIA?

A: I'LL HAVE TO TAKE THAT ONE.

Q: WELL, IF YOU WOULD TELL ME X NUMBER OF DOLLARS, THAT
WOULD BE FINE.

A: THAT'S A FINE TECHNICAL QUESTION, TOO. I WILL HAVE TO
TAKE THAT.

Q: WELL, DON'T. I CAN FIND OUT I GUESS. DO YOU KNOW HOW
MUCH THE IMET INVOLVES?

A: NO. I DON'T HAVE THE BREAKDOWN AT ALL.

Q: WAS THERE A DISRUPTION IN THE PIPELINE WHEN GENERAL
PEREDA TOOK POWER?

A: I THINK THAT I WILL TAKE THE QUESTION FOR THIS REASON:
DISRUPTION IS A WORD, INTERRUPTION IS A WORD, PAUSE,
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VARIOUS THINGS, AND THERE IS A QUESTION OF SEMANTICS HERE
WHICH I DON'T WANT TO TRY TO GRAPPLE WITH.

Q: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PIPELINE WHEN GENERAL PEREDA CAME
TO POWER?

A: YES, I UNDERSTAND. LET ME TAKE THAT ONE.

Q: GENERAL PEREDA INDICATED IN A STATEMENT YESTERDAY THAT
THE MILITARY RELATIONSHIP HAD RESUMED.

A: IN ALMOST EVERY CHANGE OF CERTAIN SORTS, THERE MAY BE
A PAUSE THAT TAKES PLACE; BUT LET ME GET THE PRECISE THING
SO I DON'T GO WANDERING OFF INTO ONE WORD WHICH WOULD NOT
BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL TO DESCRIBE THE SITUATION. END
QUOTE. VANCE

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